



# City of Tucson - Quarterly Critical Project Status Report

Third Quarter, FY2003: January – March

## Focus Area: Economic Development

Strategies for the Year	The Human Environment - Maintain and strengthen human connections within neighborhood leadership, encourage inclusive participation, foster safety, strengthen neighborhood leadership, and encourage a greater sense of community stewardship.
	The Built Environment - Invest public funding and encourage private investment and public/private partnerships in Tucson's neighborhoods and enhance their appearance and livability.
	The Natural Environment - Respect and preserve our natural environment.

Project Name	Description	Accomplishments For Quarter	Projections for Next Quarter
Puerto Nuevo- Tucson	The development of Tucson as an Inland Port and International Economic Gateway. The creation of this multidimensional inland port will enhance Tucson's capability to manufacture, market and distribute its products throughout the world. The port will integrate services and facilities available in the areas of transportation, warehousing/logistics, manufacturing, research and international business services.	Received word on funding from Pima Association of Governments of three grants totaling \$200,000.00. Have received word on a possible contribution of the rail needed to make the Tucson Depot to Tucson-Nogales Railway connection. In January 2003, American Orient Express began operating rail service from Nogales, Sonora to Chihuahua, Chihuahua via Copper Canyon. TMTO Director named as Co-Chair of Commerce Committee at Arizona Mexico Commission, which will help develop State's Latin America Gateway Plan. Conducted meetings to promote Puerto Nuevo with US Customs- becoming even more supportive of our passenger and cargo projects Arizona Governor's Office. Our projects link up well to the Governor's Gateway to Latin America Plan. CAADES- Agricultural Association of Sinaloa- Exploring new options for distributing their produce and fruits in Tucson.	Very optimistic about Mexican legislation that will facilitate passenger train service into Mexico. Mexico-Congress adjourns May 15 <sup>th</sup> . Rail passenger and cargo plans are picking up support from potential stakeholders.
Support for Local Businesses	Continue programs and advocacy services directed at retaining and expanding local business, including small business. Through the supply chain development and BusinessLINC program, increase profit opportunities for southern Arizona businesses by linking local, national, and international firms/buyers with local suppliers.	Received Mayor and Council approval of \$200,000 City/ADOC grant agreement. Expanded and improved Supply Chain website ( <a href="http://www.azscd.org">www.azscd.org</a> ); more than 1,400 businesses listed. Currently working 71 projects valued at an estimated \$50 million in procurement opportunities and secured \$53.5 million in contracts for 45 southern Arizona cities and towns.	Expanded BusinessLINC database to include all of Southern Arizona with the exception of Casa Grande. Provide increased buyer support and business to business sales matching (ongoing). Assist Arizona Department of Commerce in statewide rollout of BusinessLINC model (in progress). Expand BusinessLINC strategic partners participation to include all of Southern Arizona (Safford, Sierra Vista, Douglas, Yuma, Nogales). Expand on Mexico and other international procurement participation opportunities (met with 19 maquilas)
Tucson Empowerment Zone, Enterprise Zone, Foreign Trade Zone No. 174	Use designated federal and state tax incentive programs, including the newly awarded Empowerment Zone, to assist companies to reduce the cost of doing business in targeted zones within the Tucson community.	Received 13,000 web-site hits, responded to 1,000 information requests, spoken at over 150 neighborhood meetings and community events, and conducted 250 business site visits; Tucson's Money has funded 6 new empowerment zone loans; secured approval of marketing plan (Empowerment Zone) Secured \$2,740,270 in state income tax credits for Tucson companies for the first 6 months of FY 2003. This represents 22% of the statewide total.	The first annual empowerment zone awards banquet is scheduled for May 13. HB2444 allowing issuance of bonds has passed Senate. Businesses have donated tax savings to the educational system in the form of equipment and financial support. Continue to market all tax incentive programs.